

Message Text

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SUBJ: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS CONFEX

FOLLOWING IS A UN PRESS RELEASE DATED FEBRUARY 25 REGARD-
ING THE APPOINTMENT OF ENRIQUE PENALOSA AS SECRETARY
GENERAL OF SUBJECT CONFEX.

ENRIQUE PENALOSA OF COLOMBIA APPOINTED SECRETARY-GENERAL
OF CONFERENCE-EXPOSITION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

SECRETARY-GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM ANNOUNCED TODAY THE
APPOINTMENT OF ENRIQUE PENALOSA, ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND A NATIONAL
OF COLOMBIA, AS SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE-EXPOSITION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, SCHEDULED
FOR VANCOUVER, CANADA, FROM 31 MAY TO 11 JUNE 1976.

THE APPOINTMENT, AT THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL LEVEL,
RUNS FROM 15 APRIL 1974 TO 31 DECEMBER 1976.

THE CONFERENCE-EXPOSITION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY, WHICH ASSIGNED IT THE FOLLOWING MAIN PURPOSE:

"TO SERVE AS A PRACTICAL MEANS TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION

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ABOUT SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT AGAINST

A BROAD BACKGROUND OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER CONCERNS WHICH MAY LEAD TO THE FORMATION OF POLICIES AND ACTIONS BY GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS".

THE DECISION TO HOLD THE MEETING WAS TAKEN BY THE ASSEMBLY IN 1972, IN RESOLUTION 3001 (XXVII). THE DATES, PLACE AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS WERE FIXED IN RESOLUTION 3128 (XXVIII) OF DECEMBER 1973.

IN LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION, THE ASSEMBLY REQUESTED SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM TO APPOINT AT AN EARLY DATE A SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR THE CONFERENCE. THAT OFFICIAL, IT SPECIFIED, WOULD REPORT THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP) AND WOULD WORK IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS AND THE HEADS OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES.

THE NEW APPOINTEE WILL BE IN CHARGE OF A SMALL CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT WHICH, IN THE WORDS OF THE ASSEMBLY'S 1973 RESOLUTION, WILL DRAW UPON "THE RESOURCES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM", ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE UNEP SECRETARIAT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

THE ASSEMBLY ALSO ESTABLISHED A 58-MEMBER PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CONFERENCE TO ADVISE THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON PLANS FOR THE GATHERING. THIS COMMITTEE IS TO HOLD ITS FIRST SESSION AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN APRIL.

IN ITS 1972 RESOLUTION, THE ASSEMBLY STATED THAT PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE-EXPOSITION "SHOULD GENERATE A REVIEW OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL, AND SHOULD RESULT IN THE SELECTION AND SUPPORT OF A SERIES OF DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS SPONSORED BY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AND THE UNITED NATIONS".

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

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THE NEWLY APPOINTED SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE, MR. PENALOSA, WAS BORN AT SOACHA, COLOMBIA, ON 31 AUGUST 1930. HE GRADUATED WITH HIGHEST HONOURS FROM THE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS OF THE GIMNASIO MODERNO, NOW THE UNIVERSITY OF THE ANDES, IN BOGOTA.

AFTER A PERIOD IN 1952 AS ECONOMIC EDITOR OF THE WEEKLY REVIEW SEMANA, HE SERVED IN 1952 -AND 1953 AS AN ASSISTANT

IN THE NATIONAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT OF COLOMBIA. IN 1954 HE PARTICIPATED IN A ONE-YEAR TRAINING COURSE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GIVEN IN WASHINGTON BY THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT. HE PARTICIPATED IN 1955 IN WORLD BANK MISSIONS TO COLOMBIA, CONCERNED WITH THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, PUBLIC INVESTMENT AND THE CORPORACION REGIONAL DEL VALLE DEL CAUCA.

FROM 1956 TO 1961 HE WAS A PRIVATE ECONOMIC CONSULTANT TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CORPORATIONS BEFORE BECOMING IN 1961 THE FIRST DIRECTOR OF THE REGIONAL CORPORACION DE LA SABANA DE BOGOTA. BETWEEN 1961 AND 1968 HE WAS THE FIRST GENERAL MANAGER OF THE COLOMBIAN INSTITUTE OF AGRARIAN REFORM. AFTERWARDS, IN 1968 AND 1969, HE SERVED AS MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INSTITUTIONAL ORGANIZATION AND RATIONALIZATION OF THE MANY COLOMBIAN AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH AGRICULTURE.

IN 1970 AND 1971 MR. PENALOSA WAS AN ALTERNATIVE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, REPRESENTING CHILE, COLOMBIA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, AND VENEZUELA. HE HAS BEEN ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER OF THE BANK SINCE OCTOBER 1971.

HE SERVED AS A FELLOW OF THE ADLAI STEVENSON INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AND AS MEMBER OF THE PERMANENT ADVISORY PANEL ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORLD BANK.

HE IS THE AUTHOR OF MANY ARTICLES IN THE COLOMBIAN PRESS, ESPECIALLY IN THE DAILIES EL ESPECTADOR AND EL TIEMPO. HIS PUBLISHED WORKS INCLUDE EL CONTROL DE CAMBIOS EN COLOMBIA AND DEMOCRACIA Y VALORIZACION.

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HE REPRESENTED COLOMBIA FROM 1966 TO 1969 AT MEETINGS OF THE FAO CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL.

MR. PENALOSA IS MARRIED AND HAS FIVE CHILDREN.
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